

HOUSE BILL 3120
By Kerr

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 30 and Title 68, Chapter 2, Part 11, relative to designating as state employees certain persons under contract with rural community health agencies.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-2-1115, is amended by deleting the language "Employees of the community health agencies", and by substituting instead the language "Employees of and those persons identified as rural county WIC clerks and nutritionists under contract with the community health agencies".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-2-1117(4), is amended by inserting the word "urban" between the word "the" and the words "community health agencies".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-30-101(23), is amended by inserting the following language at the end of the subdivision:

Such term shall also include rural county WIC clerks and nutritionists under contract with community health agencies. The classification of such persons shall occur on the effective date of this act as follows:

(1)(A) All such contract employees converted to state positions must have six (6) months service in the same position and meet the minimum qualifications of that particular position.

(B) Contract employees with less than six (6) months service who meet the minimum qualifications of their designated position will be given civil service status upon completion of six (6) months service.

(C) Employees who do not meet minimum qualifications regardless of months of service may transfer into state positions but will remain non-civil service until they can be reached on a certificate of eligibles.

(2) All contract conversion employees will be brought in at their current salary, regardless of step in range.

(3) Service time with the contract agency will be counted as creditable state service. Group codes will be established for leave accrual purposes and longevity pay will be given to these employees on their established service anniversary date which will be equivalent to their contract service anniversary date.

(4) All leave balances will transfer over with contract employees who convert to state positions. Each employee will be given a maximum accrual rate according to years of creditable service. Employees who are above the allowed accrual rate will be given one (1) year to bring the rate to the maximum. If unused, the excess annual leave will "roll over" to sick leave one (1) year from date of conversion.

(5) Employees currently enrolled in the state insurance plan and the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System will continue to be covered.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.